

## **Middle Canyon Land Use Advisory Committee Minutes from June 30th, 2020 Meeting**

### **Board Members in attendance:**

Sharon Demeester (term exp.12/2021)

Terry Divoky (term exp. 12/2020)

Larry Parsons (term exp. 12/2022)

Mark Mussman- Director Flathead County Planning and Zoning

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

President Terry Divoky thanked Darwon Stoneman and Glacier Raft Company for allowing the meeting to be held at the Pavilion at Glacier Outdoor / Glacier Raft Company

Board Members Terry Divoky, Sharon Demeester, and Larry Parsons were introduced, along with the Director of Flathead County Planning and Zoning Director Mark Mussman. President Terry then invited everyone in attendance to introduce themselves so we could all get to know each other better and know who the people behind the masks were.

Terry called for a motion to modify the Agenda. The Staff Report on Seasonal Housing will be moved to the end of the meeting and there would also be brief reports and announcement by local community action groups. The motion was approved.

### **Old Business:**

**\* Status of Whistle Stop Resort at Lake 5:** Director Mussman said there was nothing new to report. It is believed that only one cabin on the lake is being marketed or used for rental at this time. A question was asked about the DEQ's actions and Vice President Sharon Demeester directed questions to "Emily at DEQ".

### **New Business and Community Reports:**

**\*BNSF Grant to refurbish the West Glacier Entry Overpass:** Terry Divoky, who is pursuing the Grant with Valerie Parsons, said BNSF is being slow to respond but their participation is not out of the question. They are not giving up.

**\*Committee Position Opening-** Secretary Larry Parsons offered his resignation. Parsons stated he felt by doing so would potentially and hopefully open up a position for representation by a local business person. Parsons has offered to serve until the Commissioners appoints a replacement. Interested applicants are to send their letter of interest to Director Mussman at [mmussman@flathead.mt.-gov](mailto:mmussman@flathead.mt.-gov). The appointed applicant would serve until 12/2022.

**\*A Discussion on the Number of Committee Members** followed the announcement about Larry Parsons position vacancy. The idea of expanding the committee to five members ended with a

motion *“The committee will create an Ad Hoc committee to discuss and present recommendations to expand the number of participants on the Middle Canyon Land Use Advisory Committee”*. Public information and an invitation to volunteer for the committee will be posted. Determination was made to create an Ad Hoc Committee

**\* West Glacier Community Preservation Association (WGCPA)** Board Member Jill Rocksund gave a brief update on the activities and financial position of the association. In addition to preservation efforts of the association, they provide a newsletter with comprehensive information and links to resources which is currently distributed to over 150 residents and property owners via email. More information is available at [www.westglaciercpa.wordpress.com](http://www.westglaciercpa.wordpress.com) or look them up on Facebook.

**\*West Glacier Community Vision Project:** Mary T. McClelland reported on the continuing and successful activities of the Vision project. Invitations were put out to visit their website for more information on the project and to participate in an information and idea gathering survey. The website address is [www.westglacier.mindmixer.com](http://www.westglacier.mindmixer.com)

**\*Friends of Lake 5 Inc.** founder Jean Pinski shared that the group was created to protect and preserve Lake Five and its surrounding area for future generations. More information and the specific goals, along with an invitation to join the group, can be obtained by visiting their website at [www.friendsoflakefive.net](http://www.friendsoflakefive.net) or see them on Facebook.

**\* Wildfire Adaptive Community Plan:** Apgar’s Montana House gift shop owner Monica Jungster put out an invitation to the July 1 informational program which is/was held to be held at the Apgar Amphitheater at 8 pm.

**\*West Glacier Clinic:** A citizen shared the existence and benefits of North Valley Hospitals Seasonal Clinic next to the Post Office in West Glacier. Residents and visitors alike can take advantage of North Valley Hospital’s seasonal Urgent Care Clinic. More information on this and Covid 19 are available at <https://www.krh.org/nvh/clinics/seasonal-clinics/contact-the-west-glacier-clinic>

**\*West Glacier Volunteer Fire Department:** Sharon Bengston shared our fire department is really in need of volunteers. Healthy young men and women are especially encouraged to join, serve, and learn. Please contact Doug Yeager at 406-250-6989.

**\*Staff Report on a proposed Text Amendment adding Seasonal Housing to the Canyon Area Land Use Regulatory System (CALURS):** Citizens for a Better Flathead presented a seven page document and comment via email at 9pm June 29<sup>th</sup>. Director Mussman and the Committee recognized that there was some good information, questions, and ideas presented, which would warrant an extension of the preparation and presentation of yet another revised proposed text amendment. Key business owners, although very anxious and needing to provide seasonal housing as soon as possible, showed a willingness to participate in a new committee to review a revised amendment. Director Mussman said he could provide a revision including the suggestions from the “Citizens” group within two weeks’ time for a sub-committee to review and advise.

A motion was then made by Sharon Demeester to *“Create an Ad Hoc committee to help formulate a community acceptable text amendment to CALURS, providing for healthy and safe seasonal employee housing.”* Terry Divoky seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The Chair, Terry Divoky obtained numerous names from folks in the community willing to participate. Steve Frye accepted the invitation to chair the committee.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for July 28<sup>th</sup>. Location TBD.